

We asked President Clinton to come here this evening because he has a health plan. We didn't say it's the right plan. That wasn't the idea. The idea was to give him a forum so that he could tell us everything he could about his health plan in a fairly large amount of time so that you could get a grasp of it. Then we are asking you to go, weigh what he has had to say, and look at all of the other alternatives that are out there so that you can make an informed opinion when it comes time to express how you feel.

We invite you to send your questions and your opinions to your Congressmen, to your U.S. Senator, and make those opinions known. Right, Mr. President?

The President. If anybody has any questions that weren't answered tonight, write us, and we'll answer them.

NOTE: The town meeting began at 7:05 p.m. in the KCTV television studios.

Statement on the Attack on Israeli Civilians

April 7, 1994

On behalf of the American people, I condemn in the strongest possible terms the murders of Israeli citizens on April 6 and 7 and offer condolences to their families. These brutal slayings of innocent civilians are, like the massacre in Hebron, acts of terrorism aimed at stopping the peace negotiations now underway. The enemies of peace have not hesitated to use violence to achieve their goal. They must not be allowed to succeed.

I call upon all those committed to the cause of peace to redouble their efforts and to condemn unequivocally these crimes. The negotiating process holds the promise of a better future for Israelis and Arabs alike. Prompt agreement and early implementation of the Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles and progress on the bilateral negotiating tracks are the best means to realize this goal.

Statement on the Deaths of Leaders of Rwanda and Burundi

April 7, 1994

I was shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the tragic deaths of President Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda and President Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi last night in a plane crash outside Kigali, Rwanda. The two Presidents were returning from a regional summit in Arusha, Tanzania, intended to bring an end to the civil wars that have plagued their two countries for more than three decades.

Both Presidents were seeking means to end the bloodshed in their troubled countries and facilitate a movement toward peace and democracy. Their deaths are a tragic blow to the long-suffering Rwandan and Burundian people.

I am equally horrified that elements of the Rwandan security forces have sought out and murdered Rwandan officials, including the Prime Minister, Agathe Uwilingiyimana.

On behalf of the people of the United States, I extend my condolences to the families of the deceased Presidents and the Prime Minister as well as to the peoples of the two nations.

I strongly condemn these actions and I call on all parties to cease any such actions immediately. These tragedies must not derail Rwanda and Burundi from pursuing national reconciliation and democracy.

Statement on the District Court Decision on Chicago's "Operation Clean Sweep"

April 7, 1994

Just hours ago, a Federal District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division, declared the Chicago Housing Authority's (CHA) search policy in violation of the fourth amendment.

I am ordering Attorney General Reno and Secretary Cisneros to develop promptly a search policy for public housing that is both constitutionally permissible and effective and that can be implemented on a nationwide basis. We must not allow criminals to find